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Mysuru-Bengaluru Expressway

GPS-based toll collection to be introduced soon

New system to provide huge relief for short distance motorists

By Bapu Lingaraj Urs

Mysuru, Jan. 9- Paying a hefty toll on Access-Controlled 10-lane Mysuru-Bengaluru Expressway (Highway) may become a thing of the past with the Central Government deciding over implementing Geographical Positioning System (GPS)-based toll deduction system for the distance travelled on the Highway. The new system will be introduced on a pilot basis on Mysuru-Bengaluru Expressway (NH-275) in the State and Delhi-Jaipur National Highway-48 and depending on the response, it will be gradually expanded across the country, as decided by the Central Government.

It is also a first-of-its-kind in India, with the technology driven automatic toll deduction system already in use in foreign nations like USA, Japan, China and other developed countries.

Before extending the technology enabled system, the experts will study the lacunae in the system on those two Highways selected for experiment and will fix them to ensure their technical feasibilities further.

In the existing system, toll is levied on the vehicles soon after they hit the Expressway and pass through the Toll Plaza. Even if the destination is Mandya, those travelling on the Expressway had to pay full toll depending on the category of vehicles. Irked vehicle drivers were picking up an argument with the Toll Booth employees for charging the toll fixed for those travelling till Bengaluru.

Once the new system is introduced, it is expected to bring a huge relief for such vehicle drivers who travel for a shorter distance on the Highway.

Geo-fencing

If the GPS-based toll system should be effective, having FASTag for vehicles will be a must for the automatic deduction of the toll amount. To facilitate the operation of the system, works on geo-fencing of the Highway are on, while the decision has already been made on the toll to be charged per km of travel on the Highway. The Automatic Number Plate Reader (ANPR) cameras will be installed at the entry and exit points of the Highway to record the movement of the vehicles, according to Anurag Jain, Secretary, Union Road Transport and Highways Department.

> "Central Government is introducing GPS-based toll charging system to get rid of lengthy lines at Toll Plazas.
>
>
>
> With the toll charged only for the distance travelled, the amount will be deducted from the driver's account through FASTag. Now, if a person is travelling till Mandya only on Mysuru-Bengaluru Expressway, they are ending up paying the toll charged till Bengaluru. The new system is expected to get rid of the burden of the journey they were experiencing due to the toll."
>
> —Pratap Simmha, Mysuru-Kodagu MP

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Excelsoft Technologies Chairman Prof. M.H. Dhananjaya passes away

Prof. M.H. Dhananjaya

Mysuru, Jan. 9- Prof. M.H. Dhananjaya (91), Chairman of Excelsoft Technologies Pvt. Ltd. and Excel Public School, Mysuru, who also served as an Advisor at JSS Mahavidyapeetha, passed away at JSS Hospital in city following age-related ailments yesterday afternoon.

He leaves behind son Sudhanva Dhananjaya, Managing Director of Excelsoft Technologies and Secretary of Excel Public School, daughter-in-law Lajvathi Sudhanva, granddaughter Shruthi Sudhanva, great grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends.

The body was kept at his residence '*Sukanya*' in Dattagalli 3rd Stage, for people to pay their last respects.

Last rites were held at the foot of Chamundi Hill yesterday night, according to family sources.

[See also page 3]

Supreme Court rejects Santro Ravi's bail application

Santro Ravi

Mysuru, Jan. 9 (RK&KS)- The Supreme Court (SC) today dismissed the bail application of Santro Ravi, who is languishing in Parappana Agrahara Jail in Bengaluru since a year.

The Divisional Bench, comprising Justice Bela M. Trivedi and Justice Pankaj Mittal, which took up the bail plea hearing, heard the arguments from senior advocates Siddharth Luthra and Ravindra Kamath, who appeared for Santro Ravi and advocate C.B. Gururaj, who appeared for the prosecution.

Advocate Gururaj, who argued strongly, impressed upon the Court the seriousness of the case and informed that Santro Ravi was facing over 22 human trafficking cases across Karnataka State.

Honouring the arguments of advocate Gururaj, Justices Bela M. Trivedi and Pankaj Mittal dismissed the bail application of Santro Ravi.

Advocate V.N. Raghupathy was the Advocate for Karnataka.

(See BAIL on page 7)

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Tuesday 9th January 2024

Hotel owners for 50 percent Kannada in name-boards

Mysuru, Jan. 9 (DM)- Days after the State Government made Kannada mandatory in 60 percent space of name-boards and signages, the Mysuru Hotel Owners Association has urged the Government to review its order and fix 50 percent space for Kannada in name-boards as in the past.

In a letter addressed to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday, Association President C. Narayanagowda said that previously, the Kannada and Culture Department had directed the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) to ensure 50 percent space for Kannada in name-boards of hotels, commercial establishments, companies and all other business establishments in areas coming under it.

But now, the State Government has modified its order, reserving 60 percent space for Kannada in name-boards. Highlighting the inconvenience caused to tourists from other States if Kannada space is more than 50 percent in name-boards, especially when Mysuru is considered as a top tourist destination of the State, Narayanagowda urged the Government to review its present order and fix 50 percent space for Kannada in name-boards.

Asserting that the hoteliers in no way are against Kannada, he said that the Association is pressing for 50 percent space for Kannada taking into consideration tourism development, with Mysuru being a top tourist destination, for both domestic and international tourists.

Reiterating that the Association will stand for the cause of Kannada when it comes to land, language and water issues, he said that the Association will always be supportive of the Government in such cases. But the Government should take note of Mysuru's tourism development and fix 50 percent space for Kannada in name-boards as in the past, the letter stated.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

While the current fracas on Kannada-centric billboards will settle down and you will see 60 percent of Kannada on name-boards of restaurants, retail outlets, hotels, malls and offices, the issue of language and language use and appreciation needs to be handled better. Corporate bodies and every commercial establishment that front-faces consumers need to get more sensitive to language and its many dimensions of comfort and discomfort. Language-sensitisation is a must in every establishment. This sensitisation needs to be taken to heart and practised by those who interact with people who may not know any other language except the local, or for that matter may not want to use any other but their own. The key idea lies in a simple diktat. Give respect and get respect. If you respect the local language and become a part of it, you are respected more. The Kannadiga will love you more and more as you speak more and more of his, or their tongue. I do believe adopting the local language is a business-enhancing tool all its own. The more you use the local language, the more you will benefit as a corporation, a restaurant or a retailer on the street. The onus of erasing the 'us' versus 'them' mindset lies more on the 'outsider' rather than on the 'insider'. And this point is applicable to every city in modern India. Let's sit up and smell the coffee. There are movements in every State that want more localisation and for that language is the starting point. Over the years, this will move on to other things as well, but no point in fretting about that now. For the moment, learning my language to become a part of me. Learn my language to get closer to me. The simplest tool to become the 'us' is language. The easiest tool to stay in the ranks of the 'them' is to resist the local language.

—Harish Bijoor in The New Indian Express

NEWS SPARKLERS

Man runs 242 marathons in one year

Toronto: A Toronto man who ran 242 freestyle marathons over the course of 2023 is likely have broken a world record.

Ben Pobjoy, who called his project the "Marathon Earth Challenge," traveled across North America, South America, Europe, Africa and Asia, running 26.2 miles in each location.

He ended up running a total 242 of his solo marathons in 2023 in an attempt to break the Guinness World Record for the most marathons completed in one year.

The record is currently held by U.S. man Larry Macon, who ran 239 marathons in 2012.

Couple's dog eats 4,000 dollars cash

Pittsburgh: A Pittsburgh couple whose dog ate an envelope filled with 4,000 dollars cash said they were able to recover 3,550 dollars - but it was dirty work.

Clayton Law said he and his wife Carrie, were having a fence installed at their home in the Point Breeze neighborhood and the workers requested to be paid in cash, so he left an envelope filled with 4,000 dollars in 100 and 50 bills on the kitchen counter.

Law said he returned to the kitchen about 30 minutes later to find Cecil, the couple's 7-year-old goldendoodle, making a meal out of the cash.

The couple set about trying to reassemble the shredded bills, and came up with $1,500 worth of bills with serial numbers that were intact enough to have them replaced by their bank. More cash were retrieved later when Cecil vomited, but the rest of the money involved a lot of waiting and a lot of dirty work.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Myth: UTIs only affect women.
Fact: While women are more prone to UTIs due to their anatomy, men can also develop urinary tract infections. However, UTIs are more common in women, especially due to the shorter urethra.

By Dr. Thimmaiah K A - Consultant - Urology
Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Wins two gold medals at State Masters Athletics Meet

M. Yogendra

Mysuru, Jan. 9- Mysore Athletics Club Secretary Madappa Yogendra has won two Gold Medals in 5,000 mtrs and 10,000 mts (60+) running race in the 43rd Karnataka State Masters Athletics Championship held at Sri B. Channabyre Gowda Stadium in Hosakote on Jan. 6 and 7.

The medals were given away by Chief Athletics Technical Officials Anjaneya, Ajeya and Income Tax Officer Mahadevaiah.

Yogendra has been selected to represent Karnataka State in the forthcoming National Masters Athletics Championship to be held at Pune in February.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	HARANGI DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284.00 feet**	Maximum **2,859.00 feet**
Today's level **96.58 feet**	Today's level **2,273.26 feet**	Today's level **2,831.30 feet**
Last year's level **118.54 feet**	Last year's level **2,271.90 feet**	Last year's level **2,828.50 feet**
Yesterday's level **96.60 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,273.21 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,831.25 feet**
Today's Inflow **1,421 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **675 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **160 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **1,479 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **300 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **100 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- ***Some fish cough. In order to clear the particles and bacteria out of their gills, the fish's ventilation cycle is interrupted with a cough.***
- ***Horses and cows actually sleep standing up.***
- ***A shark doesn't contain any bones in its body.***
- ***Sea sponges are considered the "least evolutionarily advanced" animal on the planet.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Mother: *How was the maths test today?*
Son: *Not bad. I will get five marks out of hundred.*
Mother: *Just five marks?*
Son: *Yes. Our maths teacher told us that she would give us five marks for neatness. So I left my paper neatly blank!!*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 83.12
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 105.94
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 22.63
1 Euro	= Rs. 91.04

VOICE OF THE READER

Frequent breakdowns of KSRTC buses in Mysuru city

Sir,

The condition of KSRTC buses operating in and around Mysuru city has significantly worsened, with frequent breakdowns leading to passengers being stranded. This decline in service quality is attributed to a combination of factors, primarily overcrowding due to the implementation of free travel for women by the current Karnataka Government and inadequate maintenance.

Free travel has likely contributed to the overcrowding issue, placing an additional strain on the buses. The resultant strain, coupled with poor maintenance, is a key factor in the increasing number of breakdowns.

This could be due to fund constraints as the KSRTC may find it difficult to replace vehicle parts and service the vehicles periodically which has resulted in buses going off the roads. The Government seems to have no clue how to overcome this pathetic situation.

—Ramachandran
V.V. Mohalla 3.1.2024

Suttur Seer condoles Prof. Dhananjaya's death

Mysuru, Jan. 9- Suttur Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji, in his condolence message, said that Prof. M.H. Dhananjaya, who had served at JSS for several decades, was a role model for everyone.

Suttur Seer

He had served as an Advisor of Technical Education Division at JSS Mahavidyapeetha and also served as its Director.

The Seer recalled the services of Prof. Dhananjaya to the Srimutt and JSS Mahavidyapeetha since the time of Sri Rajendra Mahaswamiji. Stating that his death yesterday has left a vacuum in the JSS organisation, the Seer prayed for his soul to rest in peace and to give strength to his family to bear the loss.

Obituary

Anthony Prasad Patrick

Mysuru, Jan. 9- Anthony Prasad Patrick (62), a resident of No. 3849, 13/1, 13th Cross, St. Mary's Road, Karunapura, near FTS Circle, passed away in Pune yesterday night.

He leaves behind his wife Fiona Patrick, daughter Sharon, son-in-law Brendon Waller, son Shawn, grand-daughter Sianna and a host of relatives and friends. Date and time of the funeral will be decided after the body arrives from Pune this evening, according to family sources.

Family can be contacted on Mob: 99808-99722.

Railway Pensioners monthly meet

Mysuru, Jan. 9- The monthly meeting of the Railway Pensioners Welfare Association, Mysuru, will be held at 11.30 am on Jan. 13 (second Saturday) at A. Manuel Hall, Seshadri Iyer Road, Mysuru. Association President Parthasarathy will preside. M.D. Sunil Kumar Jain, General Secretary and M. Govinda Rao, Vice President, will be present at the meeting.

Prof. Dhananjaya, a leader in technical education

Mysuru, Jan. 9 (SBD&KS)- Prof. M.H. Dhananjaya, who passed away yesterday, is remembered for his yeoman service in the field of technical education.

Prof. Dhananjaya

Born on Apr. 16, 1933, Prof. Dhananjaya completed his BE in Electrical Engineering at University of Mysore and did his MS in Electronics at Pratt Institute, USA. He joined as a Professor at Sri Jayachamarajendra College of Engineering (SJCE) in 1967 and later served as the College Principal from May 16, 1974 before retiring in 1991.

He later served as the Director and Advisor of Technical Education System at JSS Mahavidyapeetha for several decades and was responsible for planning, establishing and administering four Engineering Colleges at Mysuru, Bengaluru, Noida in Uttar Pradesh and at Mauritius, four Polytechnics, three Industrial Training Centres, three Science and Technology Entrepreneurs Park (STEP) at Mysuru, Bengaluru and Noida, two international schools in Dubai and a consultancy service organisation to provide expert services like training, engineering design, management services among others.

Prof. Dhananjaya was a HRD expert in design and development of training methods and curricula and execution, project planning and administration.

He had the ability to do macro-planning and micro-planning for setting up of higher centres of learning in technical education.

Prof. Dhananjaya had designed and developed training programmes for The World Bank, Government of Karnataka and several Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs).

He had also worked as an expert in several National and State-level Committees constituted by the Government of Karnataka and Government of India organisations like AICTE, MHRD, Ed.CIL. He had published several papers on formal and non-formal education.

Prof. Dhananjaya was the recipient of several awards including Anna University National Award for Outstanding Academician in 1986 by Indian Society for Technical Education; Uttar Pradesh Government National Award for his outstanding work in the field of Institutional Management in 1991 by Indian Society for Technical Education and National Science and Technology Award for Excellence for the year 1997-98 by Jeppiar Educational Trust among others.

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NEWS BRIEFS

KSOU re-exam on Jan. 28

On account of the question paper leak of Computer in Business subject (Paper-9) of the University's third year B.Com degree course (Non CBCS) that was held on Sept. 21, 2023, the KSOU will be holding a re-exam in the subject on Jan. 28 (9 am to 12 noon), according to a KSOU press release. For details, log on to the KSOU website: ***www.ksoumysuru.ac.in*** or YouTube channel 'KSOU DRUSHYAVAHINI.'

State-level Bhajan Contest

As part of the week-long annual Suttur Jatra to take place at Suttur in Nanjangud taluk from Feb. 6 to 11, a State-level 30th Bhajan Contest has been organised. The Contest is open for male, female and children groups from across the State. The winners of the Contest will be presented cash prizes, a memento and certificates and all the participating groups will be given a Certificate of Appreciation. All the participating groups will be provided travel allowance and free boarding and lodging. The groups interested in participating can register by calling Ph: 0821-2548212 or Mob: 94488-00977 or 98444-71330 or 90086-50264.

Annual Day celebrations

The 19th Annual Day celebrations of Sri Balaji Education and Charitable Trust United Primary School, SBM Colony, will be held at RamaGovinda Rangamandira in Ramakrishnanagar E & F Block on Jan. 10 at 4 pm. Social worker B. Ningappa will inaugurate. Retired Professor of Mysore University Dr. Ashok will preside. Former Corporator R. Dinesh, Rohith Gowda of Akrithi Construction, Dr. G.M. Naveen of Kushalnagar Government Engineering College, Mysuru's Sarada Vilas College Lecturer Rajendra Prasad Honnalagere and Damayanti will be the chief guests, according to United Primary School Head Master A.T. Shankaregowda.

Ph.D awardee

S.S. Kavitha has been awarded Ph.D in Electrical and Electronics Engineering Sciences by the Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU), Belagavi, for her thesis 'Study, Analysis and Implementation of Quantum Circuits and Algorithms' submitted under the guidance of Dr. Narasimha Kaulgud.

Three fans of actor Yash die of electrocution

KGF-fame actor consoles grieving kin of his fans at Gadag

Gadag, Jan. 9- In a gruesome incident, three die-hard fans of Sandalwood actor 'Rocking Star' Yash met their tragic end due to electrocution while erecting a flex board for the birthday of their favourite actor at Suranagi at Lakshmeshwar taluk in the district on Monday wee hours.

Hanamantha Harijan (24), Murali Naduvinamani (20) and Naveen (20) are those unfortunate youths. Five youths were erecting a huge flex board with metal frame on the eve of Yash's 38th birthday, when the metal component of the board came in contact with electric line.

While three of them breathed their last on the spot, two others who suffered grievous injuries are admitted to Gadag Institute of Medical Sciences (GIMS) hospital for treatment. The bodies of the deceased were handed over to their family members after autopsy on Monday.

A pall of gloom had engulfed the village following the tragic incident. The mortal remains of the youths were cremated simultaneously, with the grieving family members and concerned villagers along with neighbouring villagers mourning over the young lives snuffed out due to tragic turn of events.

The deceased belonged to economically weaker families with their parents being daily wagers to eke out a living. The Government announced an ex-gratia of Rs. 2 lakh for each of the families of the deceased and Rs. 50,000 for those injured, said Tourism Minister H.K. Patil, who is also the Gadag In-charge Minister.

Learning about the tragic incident on his birthday, Yash, who had already announced about flying abroad in relation to his forthcoming film, came to Hubballi Airport in a special flight and took a copter to Gadag, from where he reached Suranagi by road. He consoled the grieving family members and tears welled up in his eyes as a relative of his deceased fan explained about the latter's craze for the actor.

Meanwhile, Opposition Leader in Legislative Assembly R. Ashok, who spoke about the tragic incident, urged the Government to ban flex boards to check recurrence of such incidents. The Government should also come out with specific guidelines related to the size of the flex boards.

Another fan dies in freak accident

Nikhil

Hours after the tragic death of three fans of actor Yash, another young fan of the actor died in a freak accident that occurred on Gadag-Mulagund Road on Monday night.

Nikhil (20), son of Dr. Somareddy and Dr. Sonia Karur couple, is the deceased youth. Nikhil, who was pursuing his BE final year at Smt. Kamala and Sri Venkappa M. Agadi College of Engineering & Technology (SKSVMACET), Lakshmeshwar, was a topper of Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU).

He was even selected in the campus interview, it is said.

Nikhil, was following the vehicle of Yash, who was returning after visiting the injured fans admitted for treatment at GIMS Hospital, when his two-wheeler rammed against a Police jeep.

The severely injured Nikhil was rushed to GIMS Hospital, but to no avail, as he had breathed his last on his way to the hospital.

A case has been registered and investigation is on.

Computer Operator's suicide case

Regional Commissioner suspends Hullahalli Deputy Tahsildar

Shivakumar

Nanjangud, Jan. 9- Following the death of Hullahalli Nadakacheri Computer Operator Paramesh, who committed suicide by consuming poison at the office on Sunday afternoon and leaving behind a death note holding Deputy Tahsildar N.P. Shivakumar responsible for his death, Regional Commissioner Dr. G.C. Prakash has issued an order suspending the Hullahalli Deputy Tahsildar.

Deceased Paramesh, who was working as an outsourced Computer Operator at Hullahalli Nadakacheri since several years, went to the Office at about 2 pm on Sunday, where he allegedly consumed poison in an attempt to end his life.

Though he was admitted to K.R. Hospital in Mysuru, Paramesh breathed his last.

Meanwhile, Paramesh's family members and Harathale villagers staged a protest demanding action against the Deputy Tahsildar besides threatening not to take the body of Paramesh till the Deputy Tahsildar was suspended.

The protesters also demanded compensation be paid to the family members of the deceased and also a job be provided to one of Paramesh's family members.

As Paramesh had written a death note alleging harassment from Deputy Tahsildar Shivakumar for his (Paramesh) extreme step, Regional Commissioner Dr. G.C. Prakash, has ordered suspension of the Deputy Tahsildar pending enquiry.

Chamarajanagar MLA Darshan Dhruvanarayan, who visited MMC&RI mortuary in Mysuru, consoled the family members of Paramesh besides assuring justice to them.

'Drink 2 cups of coffee daily to control BP, heart ailments'

Dr. C.N. Manjunath at 'Coffee with Doctors' event

Dr. C.N. Manjunath

Mysuru, Jan. 9- Drinking two cups of coffee every day keeps the brain alert, reduces heart ailments by 18 percent, blood pressure by 16 percent and also prevents health issues like paralysis, said Dr. C.N. Manjunath, Director of Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research Centre, Bengaluru.

He was speaking at the 'Coffee with Doctors' programme and 'Coffee Krishi Mela' organised as part of the 46th anniversary of Hassan District Planters' Association in Saklesphur, Hassan district recently.

He said, "The American College of Cardiology had conducted a 10-year study on the health of around five lakh people, who consumed two cups of coffee every day. According to the study, more than 10 health issues, including heart problems, blood pressure and others can be prevented by consuming coffee. One can live 10 years longer by drinking two cups of coffee daily. Many people around 90 to 100 years are leading a healthy life in the rural Malnad region, which is proof of this."

There is a need to create awareness on the goodness of drinking coffee and its health benefits among the people, he said adding that new brands should be introduced and a 'Coffee Fair' should be conducted. Also there is a need to set up a research division related to coffee in Universities, he noted.

Hassan District Coffee Planters' Association President K.N. Subramanya, Sambar Board National Vice-President K. Sathyanarayana, High Court Judge Sandesh, MLAs Cement Manju, A. Manju, Karnataka Growers' Federation President H.T. Mohankumar and others were present.

Swami Vivekananda brought immense respect to ascetics

Dr. Nirmalanandanatha Swamiji speaks at the valedictory of 9th Annual Conference of Ramakrishna Vivekananda Bhava Prachar Parishad

Peetadhipathi of Sri Adichunchanagiri Mahasansthana Dr. Nirmalanandanatha Swamiji, President of Sri Ramakrishna Ashram (Mysuru) Swami Muktidananda and Seers from various Ramakrishna Ashrams seen during valedictory of 9th Annual Conference of Ramakrishna Vivekananda Bhava Prachar Parishad at Jayamma Govindegowda Kalyana Mantap in Mysuru on Sunday.

Mysuru, Jan. 9 (MK&BCT)- Swami Vivekananda brought immense respect to ascetics like us, and his influence extended even to foreign countries, garnering admiration for monks. Being respected is akin to being regarded as a spiritual leader. Vivekananda's dedication and hard work are the foundation for this reverence, said Peetadhipathi of Sri Adichunchanagiri Mahasansthana Dr. Nirmalanandanatha Swamiji.

He was speaking during the valedictory of the 9th Annual Conference of Ramakrishna Vivekananda Bhava Prachar Parishad at Jayamma Govindegowda Kalyana Mantap, Kuvempunagar in the city on Sunday.

Swami Vivekananda played a significant role in bringing respect and recognition to ascetics and monks, not just in India but also on the international stage. His speech at the Parliament of the World's Religions in Chicago in 1893 is particularly renowned for its impact in shaping perceptions about Hinduism and asceticism, he noted.

The Seer emphasised Swami Vivekananda's role in disseminating the teachings of Veda-Upanishads, serving as a guiding light in the darkness of worldly policies. He remarked on the nation's struggle for freedom and the significance of truth as an idol during challenging times.

Reflecting on Swami Vivekananda's impact, the Swamiji suggested that if Vivekananda's ideas permeate our minds, our lives will be illuminated. According to him, thoughts govern the universe and positive ideas are essential for personal development. He stressed the need for moving away from negative thoughts and adopting constructive ideas.

Through his words, Vivekananda emphasised the spiritual depth and philosophical richness of India's ancient traditions, showcasing the noble ideals of renunciation, self-discipline and the pursuit of knowledge practised by ascetics. He presented a broader understanding of spirituality that went beyond ritualistic practices and superstitions, Dr. Nirmalanandanatha Swamiji noted.

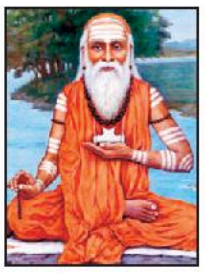
In Karnataka, especially Mysuru, Swami Vivekananda recommended cultivating gratitude. Despite having travelled extensively, Swami Vivekananda was connected to his roots and had a great appeal to the masses. Swami Vivekananda's ability to communicate profound spiritual truths in a way that resonated with the modern mind contributed to a new-found respect for ascetics and monks, he said.

Dr. Nirmalanandanatha Swamiji drew a contrast between the construction of skyscrapers, symbolising a materialistic approach, and the need for building monuments like the 'Viveka Smaraka' that will be built in Mysuru to shape individual personalities. He underscored the importance of motivational efforts to guide youth towards building a better nation, culminating in the envisioned 'Viveka Smaraka' that aims to purify emotions and contribute to the country's development.

After the event, Vidwan Mathoor Kumaraswamy rendered a Gamaka reading of 'Pashupatastra Prapti' from *Kumaravyasa Bharata.*

President of Sri Ramakrishna Ashram, Mysuru, Swami Muktidananda, Gadag-Vijayapura Ramakrishna Vivekananda Ashram President Swami Nirbhayananda Saraswathi, Halasur Ramakrishna Ashram President Bodaswaroopananda Swamiji, Vijayawada Ramakrishna Ashram President Swami Vinischalananda, Ranebennur Ramakrishna Ashram President Swami Prakashananda, Tumakuru Ramakrishna Ashram President Swami Veereshananda Saraswathi, retired Vice-Chancellor Prof. K. Chidananda Gowda, former Mayor Sunanda Palanetra and others were present.

Sri Shivarathreeshwara Jayanti tomorrow



Mysuru, Jan. 9 - The 1,064th Jayanti of Suttur Mutt Founder **Sri Shivarathreeshwara Shivayogi** will be held on Jan. 10 at Suttur Srikshetra in Nanjangud taluk.

The Jayanti celebration will be marked by various rituals such as Rudrabhisheka, chanting of Sahasranamavali, Shivashtothara, Shivarathree-swara Ashtothara and special pujas commencing from 3 am.

At 9 am, the idol of the Utsava Murti will be taken from the gadduge to Srimutt. At 9.30 am, a decorated chariot (ratha) procession will be taken out from the gadduge, which will pass through prominent roads of the village to reach Srimutt. Students of JSS free school will render songs at 9 am followed by distribution of prizes at 10.30 am.

Suttur Sri Shivarathreeshwara Panchanga, Kannada and English table calendars brought out by JSS Mahavidyapeetha and the book titled 'One Mind Game' authored by Bengaluru's Sri Chaitanya School student K. Nethra Pearlson will be released on the occasion.

Those willing to take Shivadeekshe-Lingadeekshe are requested to register their names by this evening at Suttur Srikshetra, according to a press release [Ph: 0821-2548212]

Massive Pandava-era Shivalinga unearthed in South Kodagu

Madikeri, Jan. 9 (PS&BCT)- A massive Shivalinga, believed to dating back to the era of Pandavas, has been unearthed in South Kodagu, evoking astonishment among the residents and coffee estate owners.

Situated at the base of Kunda Hill (Kunda Betta) in Ponnampet taluk of South Kodagu, this giant Shivalinga was uncovered beneath a majestic tree within the coffee plantation owned by Gummattira Kilan Ganapati and his brother Gummattira Darshan. The Gummattira family's land, where this remarkable find occurred, boasts an illustrious history spanning nearly 800 years.

Nestled beneath a 'goli' tree

Upon the discovery, senior priests and elders from the Gummattira family, who visited the site, expressed unanimous agreement regarding its profound significance. Measuring 4 feet in height and 3 feet in width, the ancient Shivalinga was nestled beneath a 'goli' tree, believed to emanate immense divine power. Plans are underway to construct a temple at the site in the future, symbolising the historical and spiritual importance embedded in the land.

The revelation came to light through Kalyatanda Ajjappa, who disclosed the existence of a buried Shivalinga within the coffee estate. Despite an initial search around a tree, it yielded no results. Later, a decision was made to excavate the area using heavy machinery. To everyone's surprise, a colossal Shivalinga was discovered deep within the base of the tree.

Excavation yields intriguing artefacts

Further excavation efforts unveiled an array of intriguing artefacts beneath the Shivalinga, including a 'tirthanala,' an elephant pillar, stone bricks, a Somasutra, a 'Panipeeth' and a host of base stones. Each item has been meticulously preserved and sheltered, with plans to incorporate them into the construction of the upcoming temple.

Residents and priests have drawn attention to the notable proximity of the Shivalinga's discovery to the revered Eshwara Temple atop Kunda Betta. A stone temple without a door believed to have been constructed in a single night, stands not far from the discovery site, where Lord Shiva is still worshipped at Kunda Betta.

Kalyatanda Ajjappa's guidance

It is speculated by the priests that the installation of the Shivalinga may date back to the time of the Pandavas' 'Ajnathavasa,' suggesting a purposeful act to facilitate their worship of Lord Shiva during their sojourn in the region.

However, it was noted by a team of priests from Karkala that a portion of the Shivalinga had suffered damage in the past. In historical context, Shivalingas were traditionally crafted using white and wild stones, consistent with the materials used in constructing this particular Shivalinga.

The Shivalinga initially obscured in mud, underwent ceremonious worship upon its recovery. Under the adept guidance of Kalyatanda Ajjappa, the intricate process involved lifting the Shivalinga, a task that proved challenging to accomplish directly, necessitating the use of a rope. Subsequently, following Ajjappa's counsel, the Shivalinga was skilfully pulled with the assistance of calves.

Virtual Sandooka – Living Museum of Kodava Culture launched

By Mookonda Nitin Kushalappa

Sandooka — the Living Museum of Kodava Culture, an informative and interactive platform for the community, the diaspora, researchers and knowledge-seekers, has been launched. One can access it on *https://sandookamuseum.org/*

Nitin Kushalappa

The museum has been created with community participation and on the basis of research on existing knowledge of the history of Kodagu, traditions of the Kodava community and unique practices.

Presently, the museum boasts 54 stories categorised into nine themes: Architecture, Arts and Crafts, Community Histories, Clothes and Jewellery, Cuisine, Customs and Rituals, Festivals, Landscape, Literature and Folklore. The website also includes a glossary of commonly used Kodava terms and a list of recommended books and website resources.

Within the museum's pages, visitors can explore a brief history of Kodagu in sections like 'Residences of the Royals' and the glossary. An outline map in the glossary provides context, illustrating the taluks of Kodagu, its location within Karnataka and its place in India.

The brain behind this ambitious project is **Rathi Vinay Jha (Codanda),** the erstwhile Chair of the **India Foundation for the Arts (IFA).** A retired 1967 batch IAS Officer, she served as the Secretary in the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India. In early 2022, IFA issued a call for proposals from multidisciplinary teams to develop the virtual museum.

Stringent scrutiny

Numerous teams from various parts of India submitted their proposals. The selection process involved the scrutiny of an esteemed jury, including Paul Abraham (Founder of Sarmaya Arts Foundation), Nick Merriman (Director of Horniman Museums and Gardens, London), Sara Ahmed (Founder of Living Waters Museum), Venu Vasudevan, IAS (former Director General of the National Museum) and Hemanth Satyanarayana (CEO, Imaginate).

Following a meticulous evaluation of presentations and interviews, a team led by art museum curator Lina Vincent emerged as the chosen one for the project. The team comprised the dynamic designer duo Upasana Nattoji Roy and Saurav Roy from SWITCH Studio. I was honoured to be invited to spearhead the Research and Coordination for Virtual Museum.

Our team came together in early 2022 and the ensuing two years have been both hectic and gratifying. Our efforts were complemented by a dedicated group handling media resources, including Aiyuda Prasad Ponnappa (videography), Clare Arni (photography), Kalpit Gaonkar (drone videography), Kunjiyanda Mahesh Appaiah aka Max Machu (videography), Chenanda Rohan Ponnaiah (videography), G.S. Bhavani (photography), Dr. Bishan Monnappa (photography) and others. Hasan Shahrukh spearheaded website development, with Samarth Gulati focusing on the front end and Gaurav Nagar on the back end. Additional support came from associates such as Nitya Devayya, Dhriti Belliappa, Nigel Gomes and Christina Dedhia.

The IFA team overseeing the project included former Executive Director Arundhati Ghosh, Executive Director Menaka Rodriguez, members Darshana Dave, Ritwika Misra and C. Suresh Kumar.

Sandooka Advisory Board, consisting of Rathi Vinay Jha, Cheppudira P. Belliappa and Hemanth Satyanarayana, provided valuable guidance. The editorial advisors, namely Dr. Boverianda Nanjamma Chinnappa, Cheppudira P. Belliappa, Dr. Kodira Monnappa Lokesh and Dr. C.C. Sowmya Dechamma, contributed expertise to the project. **Recaero India Pvt. Ltd. predominantly funded the initiative, while Anuraadh, a Virajpet-based NGO, played a crucial role in supporting payments to artists, folk singers, dancers, craftsmen and facilitating media documentation.**

A comprehensive repository of information

Sandooka – the Living Museum of Kodava Culture stands as a comprehensive repository of information on Kodavas. **In the Kodava language, a 'sandooka' is referred to as 'chandooka', akin to a traditional wooden trunk or chest found in Indian homes.**

Our documentation efforts included capturing the 'Kail Podh' festival of weapons at the Baduvamanda ancestral house in Kavadi, festival sports at Puliyeri village green near Ammathi, the harvest festival 'Puthari' at the Padeyanda ancestral house, festival dances at Biddatanda Vaade and Kokeri Bhagwathy temple, and the annual 'theray' (a shaman ritual of Kodagu similar to 'theyyam' and 'kola') at the Nadikerianda ancestral house in Karada.

While a substantial population of Kodavas still resides in Kodagu, tens of thousands have migrated to places like Mysuru and Bengaluru. Additionally, Kodava diaspora is seen outside Karnataka in various parts of India and extending to international locations such as Singapore, the Middle East, Europe, the United Kingdom, Africa, Australia and the Americas.

To maintain cultural connections, Kodavas have established regional Kootas or Associations, where members gather annually, often during festivals. Kodava Samajas in villages, towns and cities organise Kodava weddings and other social events.

However, the Kodava diaspora faces challenges in preserving their native language and culture. As generations pass, certain traditions risk fading away. Recognising this need for preservation, **Sandooka – the Living Museum of Kodava Culture** acts as a bridge, documenting and safeguarding cultural heritage for future generations worldwide.

Sandooka is referred to as 'chandooka' in Kodava language. It is a traditional wooden trunk or chest found in Indian homes. *[Photo courtesy: Choundira Neeraj Kushalappa]*

Talakaveri (Talacauvery) - the birthplace of River Kaveri. *[Photo courtesy: Kunjiyanda Mahesh Appaiah (Max)]*

Cherishing our legacy

Rathi Vinay Jha

"Kodavas are a small community with a vibrant heritage and unique traditions. Kodagu and the Kodavas have always raised the curiosity of not just our own people but of scholars and visitors across the world. Today, with access to technology we can send a message across to our diaspora and the world about our land and its culture. Sandooka – the Living Museum of Kodava Culture is a repository of such online information on Kodava heritage. Let us cherish our legacy and celebrate our achievements."

— Rathi Vinay Jha (Codanda),
erstwhile Chair of the India Foundation for the Arts (IFA)

A bride & a groom in traditional attire. *[Photo courtesy: Deepthi Puttichanda]*

Theray (shaman ritual) invoking the deity Kuttichata. *[Photo courtesy: Aiyuda Prasad Ponnappa]*

Cleanliness on Ring Road: MP fixes roles of ULBs

Debris Recycling Plant planned on 9.5 acres land at Sathagalli

Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simmha chairing a meeting of officials at MCC this morning.

Mysuru, Jan. 9 (BLU&BS)- With unchecked dumping of waste and debris on the 42-km stretch of Outer Ring Road (ORR) turning into the order of the day, Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simmha fixed the roles for **Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)** to address the civic issue towards keeping the city clean.

He was chairing a meeting of Officials this morning at Jayachamarajendra Meeting Hall at Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) main Office on Sayyaji Rao Road that was attended by MCC Commissioner Ashaad-Ur-Rahman-Shariff, Deputy Commissioner K.J. Sindhu, Executive Engineer (EE) Nagaraj, Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) EE Channakeshava, Public Works Department (PWD) AEE Sadashiva and Executive Officers of Srirampura Town Panchayat (TP), Kadakola Town Panchayat, Bogadi Town Panchayat and Hootagalli City Municipal Council (CMC) and other officials.

Kadakola TP will take care of cleanliness and maintenance works on the stretch of ORR from Bandipalya APMC junction on Nanjangud Road to T.Narasipura Road junction and Rambai Nagar junction; MCC will take care of T. Narasipur Road to Manipal Hospital junction; MUDA from Manipal Hospital junction to Royal Inn Hotel junction; MUDA and Hootagalli CMC from Royal Inn to Vijayanagar 4th Stage junction; Bogadi TP from Vijayanagar 4th Stage to Bogadi junction and Srirampura TP from Aditya Circle to Ramabai Nagar junction.

The MP said "On a temporary basis, specific spots will be identified to dump debris on these stretches of ORR, with a Debris Recycling Plant planned to be built on 9.5 acres of land at Sathagalli while the waste thrown on ORR will be directed to Sewage Farm in Vidyaranyapuram."

He also reiterated that, a mammoth project has been already taken up at an estimated cost of Rs.1,900 crore to lay UGD pipe under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) Yojana to streamline the UGD network in the city, as the untreated sewage was flowing towards Cauvery river without reaching Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs).

The MP said by 2025, it is intended to connect all the houses in the city with gas pipeline, with 600 houses in the city already connected on a trial basis. These initiatives are taken up in keeping with the ambitious plan of Greater Mysuru. The tender related to clearing of legacy waste accumulated at Sewage Farm will be cleared in 24 months, with the tender awaiting Government's approval, he added.

Pratap Simmha's retort to Dr. Yathindra's 'National leader' jibe

Mysuru, Jan. 9 (BLU&BS)- Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simmha took a dig at former MLA Dr. Yathindra Siddaramaiah, son of Chief Minister (CM) Siddaramaiah, in reference to the latter's sarcastic remarks about him.

It may be recalled that, a few days ago, Dr. Yathindra, taking objection to certain remarks of Simmha, had mockingly asked, if Pratap Simmha was a 'National leader' to talk with such authority.

Today, when media persons asked Pratap Simmha for his reaction regarding Yathindra's 'National leader' jibe, the MP shot back saying, "Definitely I am not a National leader. I come from a poor family and was lucky enough to rise to this position through my writing abilities."

Pratap Simmha then took a sarcastic dig at Dr. Yathindra by saying, "May be a National leader is one who secures the contract of a private laboratory using his father's clout as CM. A National leader is one who forces his father to vacate his home turf and find another in Badami. A National leader is one who mounts pressure on his father to sign the transfer list given by him. So, I guess the real National leader of Mysuru region is Dr. Yathindra Siddaramaiah."

Speaking about whether CM Siddaramaiah should visit Ayodhya or not, Pratap Simmha said, "It is the prerogative of Siddaramaiah whether to visit Ayodhya or not. One should ask Congress whether they believe in Rama Rajya or Ravana Rajya?"

To the allegations of using Anna Bhagya rice to distribute *Mantrakshate* from Ayodhya, Pratap Simmha said "Can the hands that cannot accept *Mantrakshate* give rice to prepare *Mantrakshate?* After all, Siddaramaiah doesn't believe in *Akshate* and *Gotra*."

'Kreeda Ratna' awardees

M. Raju *Mahadev* *Dhanush* *Ana Basilica* *Hamsa*

Mysuru, Jan. 9- Suvarna Belaku Foundation will present 'Kreeda Ratna' Award and release the 2024 calendar at Namana Kala Mantapa in Krishnamurthypuram tomorrow (Jan. 10) at 5 pm.

The awardees are M. Raju, Mahadev, Dhanush, Ana Bacilica and Hamsa.

Social worker Raghuram Vajpayee will inaugurate the event. District Kannada Sahitya Parishat President Maddikere Gopal will preside. Writer Dr. K. Leela Prakash will release the calendar. Senior sportsperson K.T. Balaramegowda, Hotelier Ashwath, Himalaya Pratishtana Founder-President Ananth and others will be chief guests.

Supreme Court rejects bail plea

(Continued from page 1)

It may be recalled that following a complaint from a woman (said to be Santro Ravi's second wife, Vijayanagar Police in Mysuru had registered a case against K.S. Manjunath alias Santro Ravi under the provisions of Dowry Prohibition Act, SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act and under IPC Sections 506, 498A, 504, 376, 270, 313 and 323 on Jan. 2, 2023. Santro Ravi was accused of sexual assault, forceful marriage and caste abuse and several other charges. Ravi had gone absconding.

Santro Ravi, along with two of his accomplices — 45-year-old Ramji and 35-year-old Satish Kumar — was arrested at Ahmedabad in Gujarat on Jan. 13 and brought to Mysuru in the early hours of Jan. 14 where then ADGP (Law and Order) Alok Kumar had interrogated him for more than an hour. The State Government later transferred the case to the CID. Ravi was later shifted from Mysuru Jail to Bengaluru.

Santro Ravi had moved the District Court seeking bail, which was rejected. He then moved the High Court, which also dismissed his bail application two months back, following which he moved the Supreme Court, which too dismissed his bail application today.

Must not let India become a 'Hindu Rashtra': Guha

Historian Ramachandra Guha seen addressing in city yesterday.

Mysuru, Jan. 9 (PM&DM)- Noted writer and historian Ramachandra Guha has observed that India must not become a 'Hindu Rashtra' and must remain as a Republic.

He was speaking at the interaction on the topic *'The relevance of Mahatma Gandhi - Dr. B.R. Ambedkar'* at a programme organised at Centre for Gandhian Studies, Gandhi Bhavan, Manasagangothri here yesterday.

Pointing out that though the thoughts of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Ambedkar appears to be different at the outset, the thoughts are very much similar in the internal feeling. The younger generation should understand both the leaders in the present context, he noted.

"In the pre-independence era, barring Gandhiji no other upper caste leader had thought of Dalits. Attempts were made to throw out Gandhiji from Hindu religion as the Mahatma raised his voice against untouchability and fought to ensure that Dalits entered temples. Dr.Ambedkar did not join the Congress as he thought that Dalits would not get power if the party, which was full of upper caste leaders, came to power," Guha argued.

Continuing, the historian said that "Ambekdar was younger to Gandhiji by 22 years and there was a whole generation of difference between the two leaders. While untouchability was an external issue for Gandhiji, it was an internal experience for Dr. Ambedkar. While the Mahatma believed in god, Dr. Ambedkar's Moolamantra was based on logic and intellect."

Contending that there was place for Rahim (Muslim) too in Gandhiji's concept of Rama Rajya, the veteran author observed that, but today, the situation is entirely different from that of Gandhiji's thoughts.

Noting that Gandhiji discovered Rama in his mind through prayers, Guha said that the Mahatma was very much tolerant of other religions too. He further said that Dr. Ambedkar in his last speech in Parliament, had cautioned that mixing *dharma* with politics will only lead to authoritarianism.

Senior writer Devanur Mahadeva, in his address, said that initially, Gandhiji called himself as a *Sanatan Hindu.* But later on, he said that tolerance, affection and brotherhood were his religion. Dr. Ambedkar in his final days, used to say that *Karunya* was his religion and as such we should understand that both of them said the same thing.

Stressing on the need for the present day youths to read and understand the two great leaders, he said that youths should focus on their future, rather than enter into confrontation by delving into the past.

The highlights of Ramachandra Guha's English speech was translated into Kannada by writer Vivek Shanbhag. Gandhi Bhavan Director Prof. S. Narendrakumar and others were present.

Mysuru Schools celebrate Annual Day

PRAGATHI ELITE PUBLIC SCHOOL, Bogadi, celebrated its Annual Day-2023 at Kalamandira on Dec. 2. Swami Mahamedananda, Correspondent, RIMSE, Mysuru, was the guest of honour and Dr. Gubbigudu Ramesh, Columnist and Assistant Director, Department of School Education (Pre-University), Bengaluru, was the chief guest. Present on the occasion were Chairman V. Venkatesh, Academic Director Jayashri Venkatesh, Administrator Karthik V. Kashyap, Committee Members K. Govindaraju, P.S. Rajarathnam, Dr. Nagarathnamma, Principal V.V. Chaithra, staff members and parents. Students were awarded for Excellence in Academics.

The Newsletter of the school was released and books written by students were launched. Students presented a medley of cultural events under the title 'Vidhyarthi Yasho Vaibhava' which was well-received by the audience.

ST. JOSEPH'S PUBLIC SCHOOL, UDBUR, celebrated its Annual Day 'Josephine Feria-2023' at the School campus on Dec. 13. Principal Rev. Fr. Anjo Karappilly MCBS welcomed the gathering and presented the audio-visual report.

The public meeting was inaugurated by Mar Sebastian Adayanthrath, Bishop, Diocese of Mandya. Rev. Fr. George Kannamplackel MCBS, Councillor for Social Apostolate and Education, presided over the function. G. Shekhar, Police Inspector, City Crime Branch, Mysuru, was the guest of honour.

Well-known celebrity and choreographer Darshan, Rev. Fr. Antony Joseph, the Bursar and Siddamurthy, PTA President, shared the dais. Sr. Cristal Rainy, the Wellness Teacher, proposed the vote of thanks.

Merit award for last year's tenth class students and different prizes were distributed by the chief guests on the occasion.

The audience comprised Priests, Sisters, Principals, Teachers from various Schools and parents who were treated with the grand and colourful cultural programmes that lasted till 9.30 pm.

PRAMATI HILLVIEW ACADEMY, Kuvempunagar, celebrated its Annual Day 'Pramati Utsava' on Dec. 14 and 15 in three phases at Kalamandira on Vinoba Road in city. Students from Class Pre-KG to Class 12 and PUC showcased their cultural talent at the event.

In the first phase on 14th evening, cultural events were presented by Class 3, 4, 6, 9 and 10th students.

The Fest was inaugurated by renowned actor, Director and writer S.N. Sethuram. He also felicitated the faculty who served in the institution for 20, 15 and 10 years. Formal stage function was followed by cultural events. Students presented instrumental music, Shiva-Tandava dance, Indo-Western fusion, drama in English, tribal dance, tiger dance etc.

School President Bhavani Shankar, Secretary H.V. Rajeev, Treasurer S. Phaniraj, School Principal C.S. Sudarshana, College Principal Sunil Dayakar, staff, students and parents were present on the occasion.

GRACE OPEN SCHOOL AND TRAINING CENTRE of GRG Grace Trust celebrated its annual day 'Amazing Grace 2023' on Dec. 16 at Basaveshwara Samudaya Bhavana in Bogadi.

Emeritus Bishop Rev. Dr. Thomas A. Vazhappilly, Kannada Film Director Mahesh Babu, Rev. Fr. Marie Raj (Parish Priest of St.Peters Church, Bogadi), Trustees of GRG Grace Trust B.S. Jayaram, May Rose Steel, Managing Trustees Shibu A. Joseph and Director Swapna Joseph were present.

Grace Open School & Training Centre of GRG Grace Trust is a non-profit organisation established in 2012 in Mysuru by a group of like-minded people. The beneficiaries of the School are children with Mental Retardation, Autism, Down Syndrome, Learning Disability, Developmental Delay, Deaf-and-Dumb and other Special Needs.

CHAMPAKA ACADEMY celebrated the Annual Day of Hebbal and Gokulam Centres on Dec. 17, 2023. Founder Dr. Nagalakshmi and Trustees Nagarajan and Deepamani were present.

Electoral Officer calls for steps to increase voter turnout in Mysuru

Additional Chief Electoral Officer M. Kurma Rao chairing a meeting at the DC's Office in Siddarthanagar here yesterday as ZP CEO K.M. Gayathri, MCC Commissioner Ashaad-ur-Rahman Shariff, MCC Deputy Commissioner (Administration) G.S. Somashekar and others look on.

Mysuru, Jan. 9- Additional Chief Electoral Officer M. Kurma Rao on Monday directed the Mysuru District Administration officials to initiate all measures to increase voter turnout in the upcoming Parliamentary polls.

He was speaking after presiding over the SVEEP (Systematic Voter Education and Electoral Participation) Committee meeting held at the Office of the Deputy Commissioner in Siddarthanagar here yesterday.

Pointing out that the urban Assembly segments of the city — Krishnaraja, Narasimharaja and Chamaraja — had recorded low voter turnout in the last Assembly polls as compared to rural Constituencies of the district, Kurma Rao said officials must soon identify the polling booths which recorded poor voter turnout and initiate measures to sensitise the voters about the importance of voting.

He asked the officials to undertake voter turnout increasing awareness activities in all Electoral Literacy Clubs constituted by the District Administration's election branch under SVEEP initiative of the Election Commission for improving voter participation.

ZP CEO K.M. Gayathri said that the district SVEEP Committee has formed 822 Electoral Literacy Clubs to sensitise the voters about the importance of voting. Apart from this, voters were also educated through holding of rallies, walkathons, painting and drawing competitions for students, essay writing and speech competitions, she added.

Officials from various Departments and Booth Level Officers were present at the meeting.

Chamaraja MLA holds 'Janaspandana' in city

Mysuru, Jan. 9- Chamaraja MLA K. Harishgowda held a 'Janaspandana' programme at Ward Number 40 in city on Saturday at 11 am.

The MLA received memorandums from the citizens at Nimbujadevi Temple in Nazarbad and offered solutions to the grievances of the people on the spot, after discussing the issues with the officials of Mysuru City Corporation (MCC), Women and Child Development, Revenue, Food and Civil Supplies, Industries and Transport Departments and also with the officials of CESC.

Block President Sundarkumar, Ward President Mohan, senior Congress leader Varadaraju, Congress leaders S.R. Ravikumar, Revanna and others were present on the occasion.

Karnataka Open School a boon for dropout students

Mysuru, Jan. 9- The city's Karnataka Open School, which is recognised by the State and Central Governments, hosted a State-level Co-ordinators Meet at its premises on 5th Main Road, Basaveshwara Block, Teachers Layout in city recently.

DSERT Senior Assistant Director R. Manjunath, who spoke after inaugurating the Meet, said that the Open School is part of JSS Mahavidyapeetha.

Pointing out that hundreds of children, who dropped out in the middle of the academic year for various reasons, have been directly admitted to 10th and 12th standards at the Secondary and Senior Secondary levels, Manjunath said that the Open School is making all attempts to bring back dropout children to schools and thus bring them to the mainstream society.

DSERT Senior Assistant Director R. Manjunath (extreme right) being feted by Open School Head C.S. Shivaswamy and JSS Mahavidyapeetha School Education Acting Director K.L. Revannaswamy.

School Head C.S. Shivaswamy gave a brief summary of the programmes launched for the growth of the Open School.

He further said that the Open School will be celebrating its Silver Jubilee next academic year (2024-25).

JSS Mahavidyapeetha School Education Wing Acting Director K.L. Revannaswamy and others were present.

Eyesore at Curzon Park

Mysuru, Jan. 9 (PM&TRR)- Curzon Park, attached to Kote Anjaneyaswamy Temple premises in the heart of the city, is turning an eyesore with plastic waste materials being littered in the narrow space of the Park compound fence.

This indiscriminate dumping of garbage, right opposite the bust of Dr. M.H. Marigowda, the Father of Horticulture, though not visible immediately, is marring the beauty of the Park. Used plastic cups, water bottles, plastic cover bags and so on are dumped in this narrow place. Will the authorities concerned look into this and take action to clear the garbage and maintain the Park clean and tidy?

MYSORE RACES 2024

(By Our Racing Correspondent)

IRON CLAD for C. Dasharatharama Shetty Memorial Trophy

Mysuru, Jan. 9- Following are the selections for the 7th day of Mysore Winter Races to be held here on Wednesday — Jan. 10, 2024:

1.	2.00 PM	THE KUTTA PLATE	
		1200 mts. - 3 Years (TERMS)	
		1. SHE'S UNSTOPPABLE	*2. CALYPSO KING*
2.	2.30 PM	THE SPLASH PLATE	
		1200 mts. - rated 00 to 25	
		1. FLEET TACTICAL	*2. ARIGATO*
3.	3.00 PM	THE VARUNA PLATE	
		1400 mts. - rated 20 to 45	
		1. WENCHENG	*2. I CAN*
4.	3.30 PM	THE SOLITAIRE PLATE - DIV. II	
		1200 mts. - rated 20 to 45	
		1. KESARI QUEEN	*2. BYSON*
5.	4.00 PM	THE C. DASHARATHARAMA SHETTY MEMORIAL TROPHY	
		1400 mts. - rated 80 and above	
		1. IRON CLAD	*2. HAVELOCK CRUISE*
6.	4.30 PM	THE HALEBEEDU PLATE	
		1200 mts. - rated 40 to 65 (No Whip)	
		1. FURIOUS FUN	*2. IMPERIUS*
7.	5.00 PM	THE SOLITAIRE PLATE - DIV. I	
		1200 mts. - rated 20 to 45	
		1. MAYBURY	*2. BEAUTIFUL OBLIVIAN*

DAY'S BEST: *FURIOUS FUN*

DOUBLE: *1. WENCHENG 2. MAYBURY*

JACKPOT: *3, 4, 5, 6, 7* ***MINI JACKPOT:*** *4, 5, 6, 7*

I TREBLE: *2, 3, 4* ***II TREBLE:*** *5, 6, 7*

EXACTAS: *1 to 7* ***—Tipster PGC***

WORD OF THE DAY

Futurity

Pronunciation: fyoo-TOOR-uh-tee.
Meaning: Futurity is a formal, literary synonym of future meaning "time to come." The plural form, futurities, can also refer to future events or prospects.
Origin: For a forward-looking word, futurity has quite the literate past. Its first known use comes from Act III of Shakespeare's tragedy Othello, when the downtrodden Cassio, mystified about why Othello has turned against him, beseeches Desdemona to tell him whether his "offense be of such mortal kind / That nor my service past, nor present sorrows, / Nor purpos'd merit in futurity / Can ransom me into his love again." Centuries later the Scottish writer Walter Scott wrote of events still in "the womb of futurity," employing a phrase also used by James Fenimore Cooper, among others. Though still in use and very much useful, futurity tends to lend one's speech or writing a lofty tone, so if the situation calls for something more down-to-earth, you may want to go back to [the] future.
Example: "The 18th floor, two-room suite with a spacious balcony overlooking 27th Street has been transformed by the recent Yale grad, in a project aiming to broadly represent the values of the queer and creative community. ... Standard hotel whites are swapped for neon, patterned towels and bathrobes, with nods to science fiction and a theme of queer futurity continuous throughout the space." — Melissa Kravitz Hoeffner

THE ODD WORD

Ferriferous

Bearing iron.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Face the music

Meaning: You use the expression 'Face the music' to indicate that it is necessary to accept the negative consequences of previous actions.
Origin: The term "Face the music" was first seen in print during the mid-1800s. The earliest example comes from an 1834 edition of The New Hampshire Statesman & State Journal: "Will the editor of the Courier explain this black affair. We want no equivocation; 'face the music' this time."
Example: "Jim ran a stop sign and caused an accident; now he's going to have to face the music."

QUOTE BOX

Music expresses that which cannot be said and on which it is impossible to be silent. **—Victor Hugo**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

DEPART COC

Answer: Go off half-cocked.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

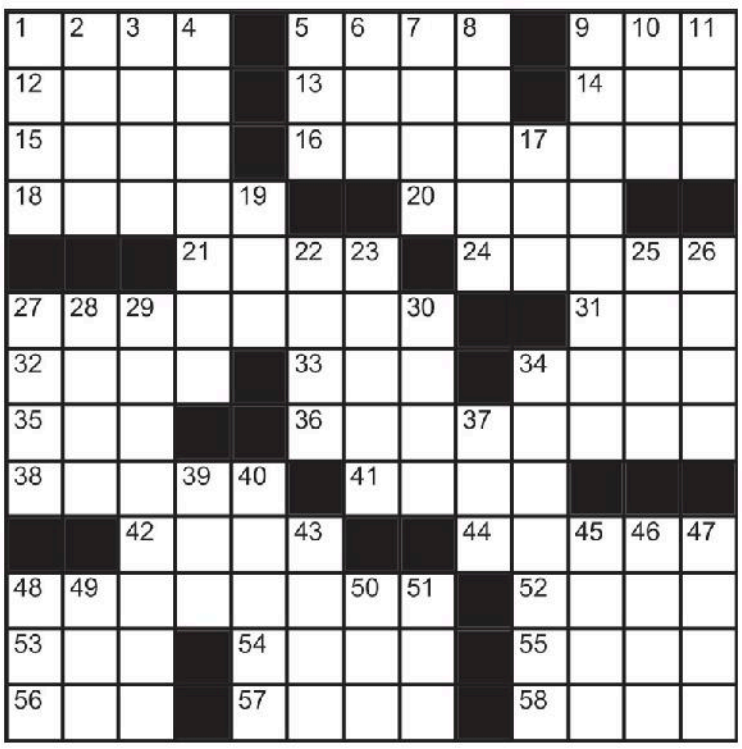
1 "Retired" in short?
5 Achieved a telling performance
9 Promise
12 Lively
13 Busy as _ __ (1,3)
14 __carte
15 __ __ where is : sales condition ? (2,2)
16 Danger
18 Woodland goddess
20 Exploding star
21 Sounds of delight
24 Belief or credo
27 Bitterness; ill feeling
31 Turkish title
32 Attendee
33 Commonly used word for a woman in Hindi or Marathi
34 __ __ example : e.g. ? (2,2)
35 Disdained newspaper
36 Resisting or disputing
38 Principle
41 Notices or glances at
42 Drink made with honey
44 Wild dog
48 Great effort
52 Fasten letter with stamped wax?
53 Cricket great Sir ____ Hutton
54 Cassius ___ : Mohammad Ali the boxer?
55 Large publication
56 Energy Design Technique, abbr.
57 Trek
58 Obstacle; drawback

DOWN

1 "Nary" a change to a man's name?
2 Take it ____ : relax, proceed gently
3 Clip; prune
4 Hopelessness
5 27 dn's tourist attraction
6 Order of the British Empire, in short
7 Exodus author __ Uris
8 Storehouse
9 Indian holy city
10 Ancient or aged
11 By the ___ : incidentally?
17 Greeting from ancient Romans?
19 Overact
22 Tramp or loiterer
23 Photographs
25 Actor Richard
26 A strong flavour
27 City in Uttar Pradesh
28 Cajole
29 Military unit
30 Exclamation of fright
34 Gives aid to
37 Library ref.
39 "Over" for the poet
40 A sporting contest
43 Capital of East Timor
45 Inert gas
46 Vasco da ___ : Portuguese sailor who came to India?
47 Couturier Cassini
48 Estimated life expectancy
49 Marked wrong
50 ___ leaf cluster : a U.S. military decoration ?
51 Nickname used for the late Mr. Bevan

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

A	L	F		E	G	G	S		D	A	R	K
L	O	U		R	O	O	T		O	B	O	E
E	L	E	V	A	T	O	R		G	O	N	G
G	A	L	A	S		D	A	D	S			
			T	E	T		P	A	T	R	O	N
M	R	I		D	A	S		M	A	O	R	I
I	O	N	S		N	E	T		R	O	L	L
S	T	R	A	W		T	U	T		F	E	E
S	E	E	T	H	E		G	A	P			
			P	O	L	O		X	E	N	O	N
O	A	H	U		E	N	T	I	R	E	T	Y
F	L	O	R		M	A	D	E		H	I	E
F	L	E	A		I	M	P	S		A	C	T



SUDOKU

9			5			1		8
			4	2				
3		2		8		4		
							8	6
	7	8				5	1	
2	3							
		3		1		2		4
				4	6			
8		6			7			1

Answer to previous puzzle

9	7	4	8	6	2	3	1	5
2	1	8	4	5	3	7	9	6
3	5	6	1	7	9	4	8	2
8	2	7	6	4	1	5	3	9
1	3	5	7	9	8	2	6	4
4	6	9	2	3	5	8	7	1
6	8	3	9	2	4	1	5	7
7	4	1	5	8	6	9	2	3
5	9	2	3	1	7	6	4	8

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

KDGV BTFTIAV ORDJ, OTJRHXJ WHX, KTCRJ

EVURDEF QVBVU RDBV IVVQ FVVQ.

TODAY'S CLUE: X EQUALS U

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: A minute's success pays the failure of years.

MOVIE LOVERS

NOW SHOWING - SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Woodlands Theatre** — **Ph: 2422871**
  Kaatera (K) - 4 Shows
- **Gayathri Theatre** — **Ph: 2443568**
  Kaatera (K) - 4 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** — **Mob: 99008-20093**
  Kaatera (K) - 4 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** — **Ph: 2423554**
  Kaatera (K) - 4 Shows
- **Thibbadevi Theatre** — **Ph: 2452958**
  Tiger 3 (H) - 4 Shows
- **Sangam Theatre** — **Ph: 2520494**
  Salaar: Cease Fire - Part 1 (K) - 4 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** — **Ph: 2521923**
  Devil: The British Secret Agent (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** — **Ph: 2497199**
  Salaar: Cease Fire - Part 1 (H) - 4 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** — **Ph: 2420885**
  Kaiva (K) - 4 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** — **Mob: 98454-14691**
  Online Madhuve Offline Shobana (K) - 3 Shows (10.30, 1.30, 4.30 pm)
  Onty Bunty Love Story (K) - 1 Show (7.30 pm)

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Prema Katha (Te)	(S-1)	10.20 am
Mathimaran (Ta)	(S-1)	1.05 pm
Salaar Cease Fire - Part 1 (Te)	(S-1)	3.40 pm
Kaatera (K)	(S-1)	7.05 pm, 10.30 pm
	(S-2)	3.50 pm, 10.00 pm
	(S-4)	9.50 am, 1.15 pm
		4.45 pm, 8.30 pm
Animal (H)	(S-2)	12.05 pm
Prema Katha (Te)	(S-2)	7.15 pm
Onty Banty Love Story (K)	(S-3)	10.20 am
Dunki (H)	(S-3)	1.20 pm, 7.10 pm
Aquaman & The Lost Kingdom (E-3D)	(S-3)	4.30 pm
Aattam (Ma)	(S-3)	10.15 pm

MVC MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Kaatera (K)	:	10 am, 12 noon
		1.40 pm, 4.00 pm
		5.20 pm, 7.45 pm, 9.30 pm
Salaar: Cease Fire - Part 1 (Te)	:	10.30 am, 9.45 pm
Salaar: Cease Fire - Part 1 (K)	:	12 noon, 6.25 pm

PVR CINEMAS — 4K Dolby 7.1

Nexus Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor. Mob: 8951357139

Kaatera (K)	:	10 am, 11 am, 11.10 am
		11.45 am, 1.20 pm, 1.35 pm
		2.35 pm, 3.20 pm, 6.10 pm
		6.55 pm, 9.45 pm, 10.30 pm
Migration (E-3D)	:	11.15 am, 4.55 pm, 9.45 pm
Salaar: Cease Fire - Part 1 (Te)	:	11.15 am, 6.10 pm
Salaar: Cease Fire - Part 1 (K)	:	2.45 pm
Salaar: Cease Fire - Part 1 (H)	:	9.30 pm
Dunki (H)	:	2.50 pm, 9.45 pm
Neru (Ma)	:	6.20 pm
Renaissance: A Film By Beyonce (E)	:	6.50 pm
Aquaman & The Lost Kingdom (E)	:	7.00 pm
Aattam (Ma)	:	10.20 pm

1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 9901373210

Kaatera (K)	:	10.15 am, 11.15 am, 1.50 pm
		2.35 pm, 2.50 pm, 5.25 pm
		6.25 pm, 9.00 pm, 10.00 pm
Salaar: Cease Fire - Part 1 (K)	:	11 am, 3.05 pm
Salaar: Cease Fire - Part 1 (Te)	:	11.30 am, 6.40 pm
Salaar: Cease Fire - Part 1 (H)	:	10.15 pm
Dunki (H)	:	6.10 pm, 9.30 pm

EVENTS TODAY (JAN. 9)

- **Ramsons Kala Pratishtana and Indian Heritage Cities Network:** 'Trees, Water, Stardust,' an Art Show of Paintings, Video Installation, Conceptual Performances by Aadirika Kaddu and Desai Somesh, The Heritage House, Saraswathipuram, **up to 8 pm.**
- **Sri Lakshminarasimha Swamy Temple, Sri Yadugiri Yathiraja Mutt:** Dhanurmasa Puja, darshan timings, Temple premises, Sri Yadugiri Yathiraja Mutt, Kalidasa Road, V.V. Mohalla, **4.30 pm to 7.30 pm.**
- **Sri Raghavendra Swamy Seva Samiti:** Discourse on 'Bhagavad Gita - 14th Chapter' by Pt. Kallapura Pavamanacharya, Sri Raghavendraswamy Mutt premises, Jayalaksmipuram, **5 pm to 6 pm.**
- **Hebbar Sri Vaishnava Sabha, Bengaluru - Hebbar Sri Vaishnava Upasabha, Mysuru:** Tirupavai Kalakshepa (discourse) by Vid. M.K. Shelvanarayana, Sri Rama Mandira, Krishnamurthypuram, **6.15 pm to 7.30 pm.**
- **Sri Uttaradi Mutt - Rogamochana Sri Dhanvantari Sannidhana:** Sri Bhagavad Gita Abhiyana, discourse on 'Bhagavad Gita - 14th Chapter' by Pt. Kallapura Pavamanacharya, Sannidhana premises, Agrahara, **6.30 pm to 7.30 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (JAN. 10)

- **Sri Lakshminarasimha Swamy Temple, Sri Yadugiri Yathiraja Mutt:** Dhanurmasa Puja, darshan timings, Temple premises, Sri Yadugiri Yathiraja Mutt, Kalidasa Road, V.V. Mohalla, **5.30 am to 10.30 am** and **4.30 pm to 7.30 pm.**
- **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Research And Extension Centre, Manasagangothri:** 74th Constitution Day - Special Lecture Series, Prof. N. Nagaraj, Director, Planning Monitoring & Evaluation Board (PMEB), University of Mysore (UoM), delivers lecture, Prof. Somanna, Principal, Maharani's Women's Commerce and Management College, Mysuru, presides, Maharani's Women's Commerce and Management College premises, Paduvarahalli (Vinayakanagara), **10.30 am.**
- **Ramsons Kala Pratishtana And Indian Heritage Cities Network:** 'Trees, Water, Stardust,' an Art Show of Paintings, Video Installation, Conceptual Performances by Aadirika Kaddu and Desai Somesh, The Heritage House, Saraswathipuram, **11 am to 8 pm.**
- **Sri Raghavendra Swamy Seva Samiti:** Discourse on 'Bhagavad Gita - 14th Chapter' by Pt. Kallapura Pavamanacharya, Sri Raghavendraswamy Mutt premises, Jayalaksmipuram, **5 pm to 6 pm.**
- **Hebbar Sri Vaishnava Sabha, Bengaluru - Hebbar Sri Vaishnava Upasabha, Mysuru:** Tirupavai Kalakshepa (discourse) by Vid. M.K. Shelvanarayana, Sri Rama Mandira, Krishnamurthypuram, **6.15 pm to 7.30 pm.**
- **Sri Uttaradi Mutt - Rogamochana Sri Dhanvantari Sannidhana:** Sri Bhagavad Gita Abhiyana, discourse on 'Bhagavad Gita - 14th Chapter' by Pt. Kallapura Pavamanacharya, Sannidhana premises, Agrahara, **6.30 pm to 7.30 pm.**

Bharatanatyam dance-drama at Exhibition Grounds today

Mysuru, Jan. 9- A Bharatanatyam dance-drama by Aikyam Dance Academy, Bengaluru, led by Vidu. Anagha Prakash, has been organised at P. Kalingarao Gana Mantapa in Exhibition Ground premises on Jan. 9 at 6 pm, under the aegis of Karnataka Exhibition Authority (KEA).

The event will feature Mudakarta, Pallavi, Varna, Tarana, Govardhana Tillana dance-drama. Artistes Anagha Prakash, Rahul Achary, L. Anusha, Sathviga Suresh, Anvesha Anand, Richa Dube and Bhoomika Sathish Kumar will present Bharatanatyam.

Vidu. Anagha Prakash

KEA Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Rajeev G. Gowda will inaugurate the event. Manager Nandakumar, Venkatesh, Srinidhi, compere Ajay Shastry will be present.

INOX LIVE the MOVIE

Mall of Mysore - Mob: 7829999465

Kaatera (K)	(S-1)	11.30 am, 3.10 pm
		6.50 pm, 10.30 pm
	(S-2)	10.30 am, 2.10 pm
		5.50 pm, 9.30 pm
Salar - Cease Fire (Part 1) (H)	(S-3)	2.35 pm; (S-4) 10.00 pm
Salar - Cease Fire (Part 1) (K)	(S-3)	11 am, 6.10 pm, 9.45 pm
Migration (E-3D)	(S-4)	10.30 am, 7.55 pm
Dunki (H)	(S-4)	12.35 pm, 4.35 pm
Trailer Screening Show	(S-4)	3.55 pm

INOX Centro Mysore - Mob: 9606976757

Kaatera (K)	:	10 am, 11 am, 1.40 pm
		2.40 pm, 3.05 pm, 5.20 pm
		6.20 pm, 9.00 pm, 10.00 pm
Trailers Screening Show	:	10.50 am
Salaar: Cease Fire - Part 1 (Te)	:	11.30 am
Salaar: Cease Fire - Part 1 (K)	:	6.45 pm
Onty Bunty Love Story (K)	:	12.40 pm
Adarsha Raitha (K)	:	3.55 pm
Online Madhuve Offline Shobana (K)	:	6.35 pm
Neru (Ma)	:	9.30 pm
Dunki (H)	:	10.20 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there are no minimum audience of 15.

Registration for 'Yuva Nidhi' scheme

Mysuru, Jan. 9- The process of registration for 'Yuva Nidhi' scheme (Rs. 3,000 monthly allowance for unemployed graduates and Rs. 1,500 for unemployed Diploma holders), one of the five pre-poll guarantees of the Congress Govt., has begun.

The registration is open for Graduates and Diploma holders, who passed out in 2023, but remain unemployed for a minimum period of 6 months. The applicants must be domiciled in Karnataka and should not have been self-employed or employed in Private/ Government establishments and should not be pursuing Master's Degree or other Higher Education courses.

The eligible unemployed youths can file 'Yuva Nidhi' application through the online portal ***https://sevasindhugs.karnataka.gov.in*** or at KarnatakaOne, BangaloreOne, GramaOne and Bapuji Seva Centres. For details, call Helpline No. 1800 599 9918, according to a press.

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CONTACT DETAILS : **STRUCTURES Online**
Srirampura, Mysore Ph. **9971096300 / 9945463976**

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2nd Year Anniversary

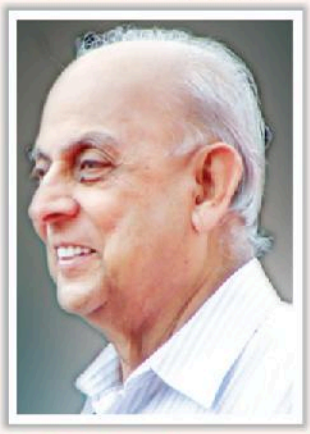
Sri M. Rangappa Retd., DCP
Ex-State Convener, Retd. Employees Cell, BJP
Ex-Chairman, Foundation for Restoring Human Dignity (FORHD) Mysore Chapter
Ex- Member, Telephone Advisory Committee, BSNL

"2nd YEAR PUNYA THITHI"
will be held at his Kuvempunagar, Mysore residence on 9-1-2024 (Tuesday) 10am

"May your gracious blessings be upon all of us"

Smt. Radhamma Rangappa, Son: Dr. Narendra Rangappa (Orthopedic Surgeon), Media Spokes Person (BJP), Karnataka
Daughter : Dr. Poornima Rangappa (Surgical Oncologist),
Brother Dr. Prasanna Kumar, Arvind Hospital, Aravindanagar, Mysore, President of V. Muniswamy Charitable Trust & Education Society & Family Members.

OBITUARY



Prof. M.H. Dhananjaya
Former Trustee, Vijaya Vittala Educational Institution

Your presence we miss, your memories we treasure, your moral values we follow, Your principles and vision makes us proud... and in our hearts you live forever.

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